

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. J. Vergeest et al.

Application No: 09/880,698

Filing Date: June 12, 2001

Attorney Docket No: 40843-C USA

Title: PROCESS FOR CUTTING AN OPTICAL FIBER

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: K. Kianni

CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION VIA FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted Via Facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 to Facsimile No. (703) 746-5907 on June 20, 2003.

Danielle M. Langdon
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This amendment is being filed in connection with the above-identified application prior to an action on the merits. In a telephone conference between the undersigned and Examiner Keyan on even date herewith, it was agreed that the following amendment is proper to correct an error in the dependency of claims 19 and 20. The applicants have also amended claim 21 to correct a typographical error. This amendment is being filed concurrently with an IDS disclosing two references which were cited in the European application corresponding to the present invention.

Without prejudice, please amend the application as follows: